

# Judge, court administrator to help improve state's justice system

Herald staff

EVERETT — Two leaders in Snohomish County's legal system have been chosen to help improve Washington's courts.

Snohomish County Superior Court Judge Michael Downes last month began serving a one-year term as president of the state's Superior Court Judge's Association.

Downes has served on Snohomish County's superior court bench since 2004, including as presiding judge between 2012-2015. He's long been active in the statewide group, which aims to improve the administration of justice by, among other things, promoting judicial ethics, sharing ideas and encouraging better relations with other branches of government.

Meanwhile, the county's court administrator, Marilyn Finsen, has been elected president of the Association of Washington Superior Court Administrators. As president, Finsen will oversee the association's business and work with the court to improve judicial services.

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